

OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT

Six Rivers Aquatic Restoration Project (PALS #42051)

Six Rivers National Forest

The Six Rivers National Forest (SRNF) is seeking comments on the draft environmental assessment (draft EA) for the *Six Rivers Aquatic Restoration Project*. This project exemplifies a collaborative shared vision among partners, tribes and stakeholders, dedicated to taking steps toward shaping the future to improve North Coast fisheries habitats (salmonids), other aquatic species and water quality. The Proposed Action would incrementally implement a suite of phased instream and nearby riparian habitat activities by reconnecting and enhancing spawning and rearing fisheries habitats and improving habitat complexity alongside streams, ponds and lakes.

The project area encompasses all administrative units of the SRNF, as well as the Ukonom Ranger District of the Klamath National Forest, under SRNF delegated administrative authority.

The draft EA presents the analysis and predicted environmental consequences of the No Action alternative and the Proposed Action, subject to a 30-day review and comment period pursuant to 36 CFR 218, Subparts A and B per the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) guidelines (§21091(b)). This assessment was guided by the California Office of Planning and Research 2014 guidance *NEPA and CEQA: Integrating Federal and State Environmental Reviews*, which encourages federal, state and local agencies to coordinate the NEPA and CEQA process so that one environmental document is prepared that meets the requirements of both.

Only those who submit timely project-specific written comments during a public comment period are eligible to file an objection per NEPA. Individuals or representatives of an entity submitting comments must sign the comments or verify identity upon request. In order for referenced material to be considered, commenters should supply literature and discuss its relevance to the project as part of their comments.

The Forest Service will accept comments on the draft EA for 30 days following publication of the comment period legal notice in the Eureka Times-Standard, which is the exclusive means for calculating the comment period. Commenters should not rely upon dates or timeframe information provided by any other source. It is the commenter's responsibility to ensure timely receipt of comments (36 CFR 218.25).

The draft EA is available for review at the Forest Supervisor's Office, 1330 Bayshore Way, Eureka, CA or online at www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=42051. Comments may be mailed to: Six Rivers National Forest, 1330 Bayshore Way, Suite 102, Eureka, CA 95501; hand-delivered Monday through Friday, 8am to 4:30pm (excluding holidays); faxed to (707) 441-3598; or emailed to kkenfield@fs.fed.us in a common format (e.g., .doc, .docx, .pdf, .rtf, .txt) with the Subject: *Aquatic Restoration Project*. Comments received, including the names and addresses of those who comment, will be considered part of the

public record for this proposal and will be available for public inspection (40 CFR 1501.7 and 1508.22; Forest Service Handbook 1909.12 §21).

For oral comments or more project information, contact Ted McArthur, forest supervisor, at (707) 442-1721, or Karen Kenfield, fisheries biologist, at (707) 441-3585.